

explore its tangled haunts. This fine feeling of entering by proxy, as it were, into the interests and enjoyments of posterity, is most pleasingly expressed in the following lines on an obelisk at the termination of a noble avenue in the park of Lord Carlisle, at Castle Howard in Yorkshire, and written by one of his ancestors:

"If to perfection these plantations rise,
If they agreeably my heirs surprise,
This faithful pillar will their age declare,
As long as Time these characters shall spare.

Here then with kind remembrance read his name
Who for posterity perform'd the same.
Charles, the 3d Earl of Carlisle
of the family of the Howards.
Erected 1731."

It is impossible to read these lines, quaint and simple as they are, without being conscious of sentiments of respect towards the benevolent spirit by which they are dictated; and under that impression the very trees themselves seem to rise in prouder majesty, to fan the air more gracefully, to offer a more refreshing shade, in grateful tribute to the memory of him by whose hand they were planted.

PLATE XXXIV.—THE SQUITCH BANK OAK.

THIS majestic Tree stands in Bagot's Park, in Staffordshire. It is the property of Lord Bagot, who may be regarded as one of the greatest encouragers of Oak timber in the kingdom, having planted two millions of acorns on his estates in Staffordshire and Wales; which display, on every side, scenes of sylvan beauty and grandeur that can scarcely be surpassed. Bagot's Park, as already mentioned, is four miles from Blithfield, a domain abounding with rich and graceful variety of scenery. The gardens bloom with a thousand sweets; the birds warbling among them in notes of gratitude to the fresh and balmy air. The lawns, clothed with oaks and clumps of trees, exhibit the most soft and delicious verdure, and present at every turn splendid views over a rich and woody country. The Park itself abounds with magnificent and ancient timber: it is plentifully stocked with red deer, and wild goats, and is bordered with the romantic cliffs that rise on the banks of the river Dove. It was amid scenes so inspiring and delightful, and under the encouraging influence of attentions from their noble owner, of which he will always retain a great remembrance, that the Author of this work made one of his earliest sketches for it, from the Beggar's Oak: and he trusts he shall not be accused of an undue degree of egotism, if he so far yields to the impulse of his feelings, as to acknowledge in this place the gratification he has derived from finding his attempt to form a national record of some of the principal Forest Trees that peculiarly ornament England above all other countries, so generously received by the public, as well as by the distinguished individuals from whose domains his subjects have been principally derived.

The Squitch Bank Oak is in its full vigour and beauty. Its circumference at the roots is forty-three feet; and at five feet high it is twenty-one feet nine inches. It is thirty-three feet in height to the crown; and twenty-eight feet above; in all sixty-one feet. The butt contains six hundred and sixty feet nine inches of timber; the principal limb seventy-nine feet six inches; and the other limbs, fourteen in number, two hundred and seventy-two feet seven inches; making its total contents one thousand and twelve feet ten inches of solid timber.

PLATE XXXV.—GOG AND MAGOG.

THESE fine Trees stand in Yardley Forest, and are the property of the Marquess of Northampton. The largest of them, Gog, measures thirty-eight feet at the roots, twenty-eight feet at three feet from the ground; is fifty-eight feet in height, and contains sixteen hundred and sixty-eight feet seven inches of solid timber. Magog is more imposing in dimensions, measuring fifty-four feet four inches at the ground, and thirty-one feet three inches at three feet higher up; but in height it is inferior, being forty-nine feet; its solid contents are nine hundred and twelve feet ten inches. The estate of the Marquess of Northampton abounds with many other magnificent specimens of forest trees; and it will not lessen their interest to recollect, that among them the poet Cowper often pursued the train of moral thought, and wove the harmonious numbers, with which he afterwards